

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Reanne S. Taylor, DOB: 4/3/79, of St. Paul, Minnesota, was sentenced today in U.S. District Court in Madison to 15 years in federal prison based on her involvement in a large methamphetamine distribution conspiracy. Pursuant to federal law, this sentence will be served without the possibility of parole.

Taylor previously pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute methamphetamine with Michelle Nelson, Jamie Briesemeister, and others from approximately September 2001 to the end of December 2004. The entire conspiracy involved the distribution of between five and fifteen kilograms of methamphetamine; Taylor's conduct involved between 1.5 kilograms and five kilograms of methamphetamine.

In sentencing Taylor, Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb found that Taylor had supplied methamphetamine to young people in the River Falls, Wisconsin area, and that the 15-year sentence would take into account Taylor's destruction of these other lives.

Michelle Nelson and Jamie Briesemeister previously pleaded guilty to the conspiracy charge. Briesemeister was sentenced on September 22 to 121 months in prison, and Michelle Nelson will be sentenced on October 6 at 1:00 p.m. Nelson faces a

mandatory minimum penalty of ten years in prison and a maximum penalty of life in prison.

United States Attorney Peterson stated that today's sentencing and the prosecution of this case reaffirms the commitment of the United States Attorney's Office to work with federal, state, and local law enforcement in joint investigations targeting large-scale methamphetamine dealers in the Western District of Wisconsin. Peterson praised the efforts of the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation-Narcotics Bureau, the St. Croix County Sheriff's Department, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The prosecution of this case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

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